

Department Overview

General Description

The King County Sheriff's Office is the primary law enforcement agency in King County, with responsibilities to provide regional, local unincorporated, and contract services.

Organization and Services

The King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) employs 1,083.5 people who provide law enforcement services to citizens of King County. We organize our personnel and services into four divisions (Field Operations, Criminal Investigations, Technical Services and Special Operations). In addition, the Office of the Sheriff comprises the sheriff, her chief of staff, a media relations officer, the Internal Investigations Unit, and the Legal Unit.

FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION

This division manages the core functions of patrol, precinct-based detectives, crime prevention, storefronts, and reserve deputies. The division has 488 FTEs. The subdivision into four precincts allows for better community-based responses because the precinct commanders can use local data to direct law enforcement services.

Day-to-day management of contract city police and school resource officers are the responsibility of this division, as depicted in the organizational chart. Most cities choose a police chief who holds primary responsibility for the operations and acts as a liaison between the KCSO and the contract entity.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

This division includes 143 FTEs. These individuals work in three areas: the Major Crimes Section, the Special Investigations Section, and the King County Regional Criminal Intelligence Group. The division serves citizens with follow-up investigative, warrant, and intelligence-gathering services. Specifically, it investigates crimes including homicide, domestic violence, computer fraud, forgery, child abuse and neglect, custodial interference, and sexual assault. CID also addresses child support enforcement issues and manages court security.

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Technical Services, with 320.5 FTEs, provides the bulk of support services that are vital to efficient operations. Often, the employees in this division provide direct services to citizens as well as support services to the other divisions. The division is composed of six sections: Budget and Accounting; Administrative Services; Communications; Contracts and Records Services; Information Services; and the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). The services provided by the division personnel include emergency 911 call receiving and dispatching, technology development, records, contracting, civil process, gun

permits, personnel, payroll, purchasing, training, photography, application and administration of grants, planning, and all aspects of fingerprint identification.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Special Operations Division, consisting of 120 FTEs, provides support services to other divisions, regional services to local agencies, and contract police service to the King County Metro Transit Division, King County Department of Transportation (Roads), and the King County International Airport. Services provided by this division include: a K-9 unit with search, drug detection, and explosive detection capabilities; air support; marine patrol; bomb/hazardous devices disposal; tactical training in firearms, less-lethal weapons, and defensive tactics; motorcycle traffic enforcement; DUI enforcement; Tac-30 (SWAT); hostage negotiations; dignitary protection; tow coordination and appeal hearings; search and rescue; coordination of the demonstration management team; instruction in and equipment for Haz-Mat; and special event planning and coordination. The division is the lead in planning for homeland security concerns.

KCSO ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

